7: Janlekha X-4,5 (1948-1953)1956 AO7 Central Thai AO7
Bangchan

CHAPTER II

THE COMMUNITY

Geography

131 The community of Bangchan is situated some twenty road-miles northeast of Bangkok in the heart of the economically all-important commercial rice growing area of central
361 Thailand. Surrounded by their rice fields, the population
[161] of about 1,600 persons lives on some three hundred small
[503] family homesteads scattered along a half dozen connecting
*[243] canals. The community occupies an area of 6,500 rai,[1] or 2,600 acres, all of which, with the exception of about 300 rai of homesites and narrow strips bordering canals, is given over to the production of wet rice.

* 134 The soil of Bangchan area is heavy dark clay with
*243 an impervious layer at a depth of about six to eight inches and is suited only to rice growing.

133 The area is essentially flat, rising slightly toward
312 the north. It receives, in addition to rain water, irrigation water channeled into it through the Saen-saeb Canal one mile to the south, Samwa Canal one mile to the east, and Khlong-song Canal one mile to the north.[2]

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[804] 1. One rai is equal to two-fifths of an acre.

2. See map on page 162.